

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114(c)
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/963,416

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 have been examined and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a).

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent Publ. No. 2005/0044567 to Young et al. ("Young") and EP 1 028 589 to Entwistle ("Entwistle")

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in view of Entwistle. Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over the reference.

A. Claim 1

For example, claim 1 states that a display device displays information about added programs that are favorite ones for a user and information about scheduled programs to be viewed or recorded for the user. Also, the claim states that the information about the added programs and the scheduled programs are displayed while arranged in a single two-dimensional program guide screen at locations corresponding to respective time slots along a same time axis.

The Examiner contends that Fig. 1 and paragraphs 0049, 0063, and 0079 of Young suggest the claimed features, but Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, Fig. 1 and paragraph 0063 merely show and describe a guide 24 that lists the programs broadcast on twelve favorite channels that a user has previously selected and includes a cursor 32 (having an offset shadow 34 and segmented portions 36) to highlight one of the programs in the guide 24. Since Fig. 1 shows favorite channels, it does not suggest displaying information about added programs, let alone displaying information about added programs and scheduled programs while arranged in a guide screen at locations corresponding to respective time slots along a same time axis.

Furthermore, paragraph 0049 merely describes a program note overlay 52 (Fig. 6), which is superposed over the guide 24 shown in Fig. 1. Clearly, the description about the overlay 52

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114(c)
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/963,416

does not suggest displaying information about added programs and scheduled programs while arranged in a guide screen at locations corresponding to respective time slots along a same time axis.

Finally, paragraph 0079 describes the “What On This Tape” screen 76 shown in Fig. 13. While the screen 76 contains information about programs that have been recorded on a tape, it merely lists the duration of each recorded program vertically along the right-hand side of Fig. 13. Thus, even assuming that the duration of each program in the screen 76 corresponds to a time axis, it is vertically oriented. On the other hand, the time slots are listed horizontally in the guide 24 shown in Fig. 1. Accordingly, to the extent that the channels in Fig. 1 somehow correspond to added programs, the information about these added programs are not arranged along a same time axis as the information about the recorded programs in Fig. 13.

Since Entwistle does not cure the deficient teachings of Young, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

Also, claim 1 states that, a first program has a higher priority than a second program and that, when the first program contends in a same time slot of the second program, the display device displays a first break mark at a first end of the first program to indicate that the first program overlaps a first portion of the second program. The Examiner contends that Fig. 5 of Entwistle suggests the claimed features, but Applicants respectfully disagree.

For example, as shown in Fig. 5, the “Some TV” program on channel 1 has a higher priority than the “Film” program on channel 2 because the viewing of the “Film” program is delayed until the user finishes watching the “Some TV” program. As such, the Examiner seems to contend that the “Some TV” program corresponds to the claimed first program and that the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114(c)
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/963,416

“Film” program corresponds to the claimed second program. However, as shown in Fig. 5, any alleged break mark is displayed in the alleged second program, and not the alleged first program, as claimed.

Similarly, the “News” program on channel 3 would seem to have a higher priority than the “Film” program on channel 2 because the “Film” program is interrupted to display the “News” program. Thus, the Examiner seems to allege that the “News” program corresponds to the claimed first program and that the “Film” program corresponds to the claimed second program. Again, any alleged break mark is displayed in the alleged second program, and not the alleged first program, as claimed.

As such, Entwistle does not suggest the claimed break mark. Since Young does not cure the deficient teachings of Entwistle, Applicants submit that claim 1 is further patentable.

B. Claims 2-10

Since claims 2-10 depend upon claim 1, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

C. Claim 11

Since claim 11 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that it is patentable for at least analogous reasons.

D. Claims 12-18

Since claims 12-18 depend upon claim 1 or 11, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Newly added claims

Applicants have added new claims 19 and 20 to provide more varied protection for

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114(c)
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/963,416

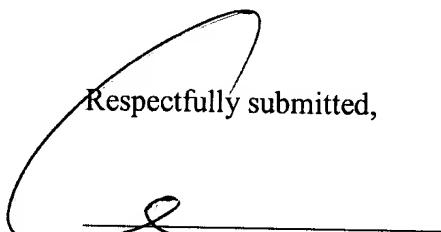
the invention. Since such claims depend upon claim 1 or 11, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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